

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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FM AMCONGEN NAPLES IT
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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5994
AMCONGEN MILAN IT 187
AMCONGEN PALERMO IT 142
AMCONGEN GENOA IT 113
AMCONGEN FLORENCE IT

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAPLES 644

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: NAPLES CITY GIUNTA RESIGNS

REF: NAPLES 549 AND 323

1. LAST WEEK NAPLES 549 REPORTED THAT THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS HAD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NAPLES CITY BUDGET ON CONDITION THAT THE PRESENT GIUNTA HEADED BY COMMUNIST MAYOR VALENZI RESIGN. THE AGREEMENT CONTEMPLATED THAT A NEW GIUNTA WOULD BE INSTALLED, SUPPORTED BY BUT NOT INCLUDING THE DC. WHETHER VALENZI WOULD BE REPLACED REMAINED A QUESTION MARK. THE CURRENT GIUNTA FORMALLY RESIGNED LAST NIGHT.

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2. IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED THAT IT WILL NOT TAKE LONG TO FORM A NEW GIUNTA, WITH OR WITHOUT VALENZI AT THE HELM. IF HE SHOULD BE DUMPED VICE MAYOR CARPINO (PSI) IS CONSIDERED THE BEST BET TO REPLACE HIM.
3. WE HADREPORTED THAT VALENZI AND HIS LEFTIST GIUNTA HAVE ACCOMPLISHED VERY LITTLE IN NAPLES DURING THE PAST TWO AND A HALF YEARS. PERIODICALLY I HAVE MENTIONED THAT THE SITUATION IN
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NAPLES IS SUCH THAT IT WOULD TAKE A MIRACLE TO IMPROVE MATTERS SIGNIFICANTLY. THE REASON I HAVE PUT THE SOLUTION IN THE REALM OF MIRACLES IS THAT, ALTHOUGH NAPLES IS A PICTURESQUE AND ROMANTIC CITY, PERHAPS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL IN THE WORLD, THE "REAL" NAPLES IS A DIFFERENT STORY. IT IS AN EXCEEDINGLY COMPLEX BLEND OF STARTLING CONTRASTS AND OF CULTURAL CROSS CURRENTS, ARISING FROM MANY HUNDREDS OF YEARS OF SUBJUGATION OF ITS RESPECTIVE CONQUERORS. IT IS AN

ADMINISTRATIVE AND POLITICAL MORASS, REEKING WITH VENALITY AND MALADMINISTRATION, SHOT THROUGH WITH CLIENTELISM AND PERSONALISM. IT IS A NEOFASCIST/MONARCHIST STRONGHOLD WITH A COMMUNIST PLURALITY. ITS GERRY-BUILT ECONOMIC STRUCTURE RESTS ON A FOUNDATION OF SEMI-FEUDAL SWEAT SHOPS, WITH A VENEER OF GROSSLY OVERSTAFFED AND IN-EFFICIENT STATE ENTERPRISES. SMALL COMMERCE, VICE, THIEVERY AND

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CONTRABAND ARE THE TRUE ECONOMIC MAINSTAYS OF A SIZEABLE PORTION OF ITS POPULATION, PERHAPS AS MANY AS ONE-FOUHE SOCIAL STRUCTURE IS A JUNGLE, WHERE THE "HAVES" ARE INDIFFERENT TO THE "HAVE NOTS". IT IS, IN SHORT, THE LESS DEVELOPED WORLD OF EUROPE, WITH A VICIOUS TWIST--THE MORE SO BECAUSE IT IS UNEXPECTED AND OFTEN UNSEEN.

4. FOOTNOTE: I HAVE NO SYMPATHY FOR COMMUNISM BUT I WOULD NOT REGRET VALENZI'S REELECTION AS MAYOR. IN MY VIEW IT WOULD PROLONG THE COMMUNISTS' RECORD OF NON-PERFORMANCE IN NAPLES AND PERHAPS ERODE SOMEWHAT THE PARTY'S CLAIM AS A VEHICLE FOR FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC REFORMS. GDS. COLANTONIO.

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